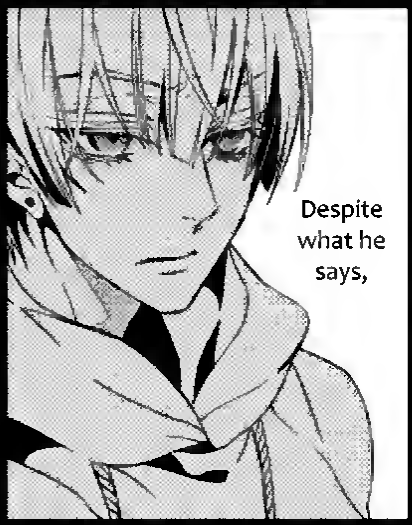
이선영
Inveigled by the chairman,
Mano entered the hunters' den...
Only to become their new bait...!
뱀파이어 도서관
Vampire Library
17

...Now that I think about it, that USB design is quite common, you can just buy a duplicate anywhere.
I should have considered that possibility...
Why was I so careless?
It was such a simple trick!
I actually walked in here on my own and offering myself up...
Like an idiot!!!

SIGH...
What's wrong, Mano? Tell me if you feel uncomfortable.
Hello darkness, my old friend...
...It's nothing.
Sorry about the hand-cuffs, the supe-riors are watching you see...
We are not trying to scare you or anything.
This is
for your own protection.

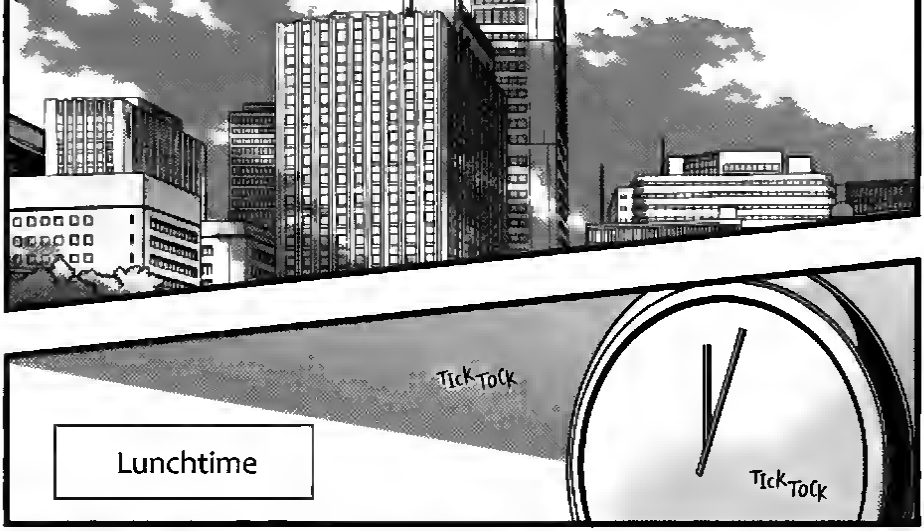
From the beginning, I knew they weren't humans.
...He did?
I wanted to know what they were planning by hiding themselves as librarians, so I asked you to check the place out for me But as I thought, that was an unreasonable request seeing how you couldn't escape They must have gotten some kind of hold over you right?
Vampires cannot go without blood for more than two weeks.
He sent me there knowing full well what they were?
They may be fixated on you right now but eventually they'll give up and look for another prey If not they'll lose their senses and charge in here recklessly
In which case we'll handle them You don't have to worry
We will protect you.
Please cooperate with us and play captive for two weeks.


Despite what he says,

the fact that they are in uniform right now means that
they are ready to put a stop to any escape attempt

...Lies.

I will no longer believe in
Seho's words.
...Alright.

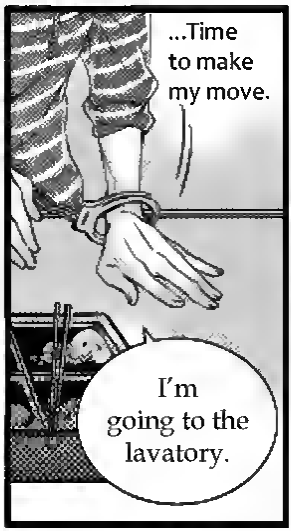

Tick Tock
Lunchtime
Tick Tock

We're heading to the canteen for lunch.
Please enjoy your meal. I'll watch over him here.
Alright then, we'll leave him to you.

Um, you could have gone with them...
Prefers to eat alone
No,
I hate crowded places.

MUNCH...

How many days have I been here?
Ten?

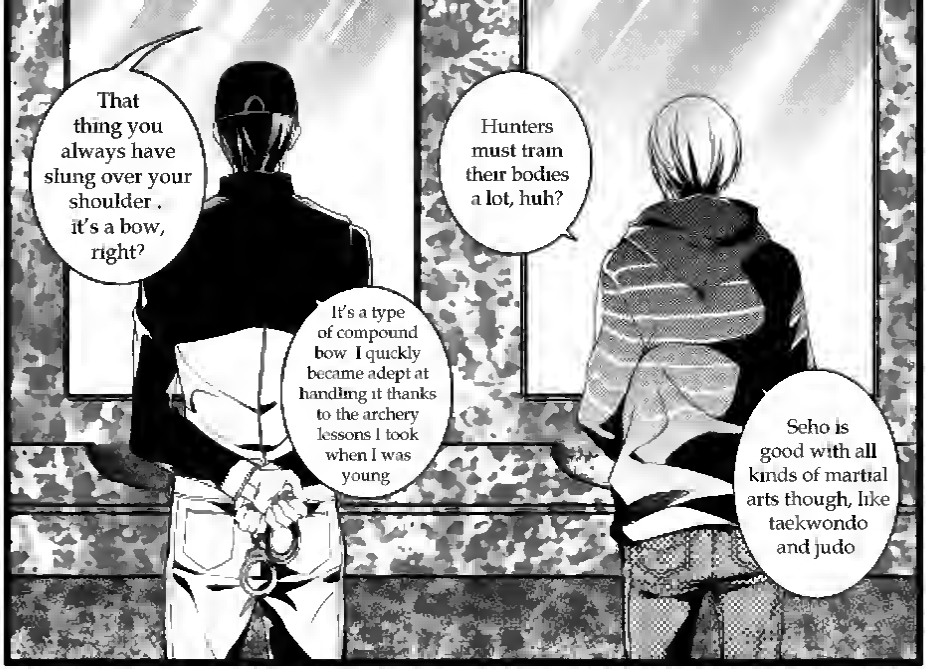

...Time to make my move.
I'm going to the lavatory.

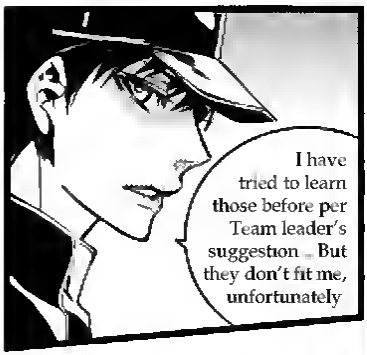
SLIDE
Wait, I'm coming

PFFT
I don't think you need *that*, we're just going to the toilet. Don't worry, I won't try to run away.

Understood.
SLIP

FLUSH...
I let out a huge snake!!
REFRESHED!
...Good for you.
Would you please remove these cuffs for now?
If shit gets on them while I conduct my business, my mood will also become pretty shitty you see.
...Despite his looks,
He's got quite a foul mouth...
SPLASH...


That thing you always have slung over your shoulder . it's a bow, right?
It's a type of compound bow I quickly became adept at handling it thanks to the archery lessons I took when I was young
Hunters must train their bodies a lot, huh?
Seho is good with all kinds of martial arts though, like taekwondo and judo


I have tried to learn those before per Team leader's suggestion . But they don't fit me, unfortunately

Hm... I see.

Your hands, please ...
...That's a relief.

GRAB

THUD
ARGH!!
For such a small frame, he packs quite a punch...!
I'm
quite skilled with my hands.

There are always utility knives lying around in an office, it was a cinch to claim one.
You little weasel.
Watch your mouth.
I may not have killed anyone before
But I do know where to stab.
Like I said
I'm skilled with my hands.

CLANK
You're making a mistake ...
It's only a matter of time before you get caught.
And when you do, I will pay you back twice for this humiliation.
I know.

Oh yeah.
SLIDE
Your big brother sends his regards.
His name is.. Kim Hoon, right?
... What?
Wait, hold on!!
CLANK
CLANK
How do you know my brother?
Hey!
Now then,
it's time to get to work.
ANING
IN
GRESS

...
White hair?
Wait, you there—
Hey!
...Huh?
That's weird. Did my eyes play tricks on me?
What's wrong?
It's useless to disguise myself, my hair colour gives me away instantly.
I have to find—
this guy.

Before the lunch break is over.
Beep
Mr. Kim Jin Woo, confirmed.
Access granted
...Huh?
Why is it so dark?

FUMBLE
Where's the switch?
FUMBLE
CLICK
...There!
FLASH
AAAH

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dialogue typesetter: Pingu
SFX: letterer: Yaya
quality checker: Tranquil Melancholy

BATHUMP
Gave me a fright
...Impossible.
BATHUMP

It's still breathing?
... Is it alive?

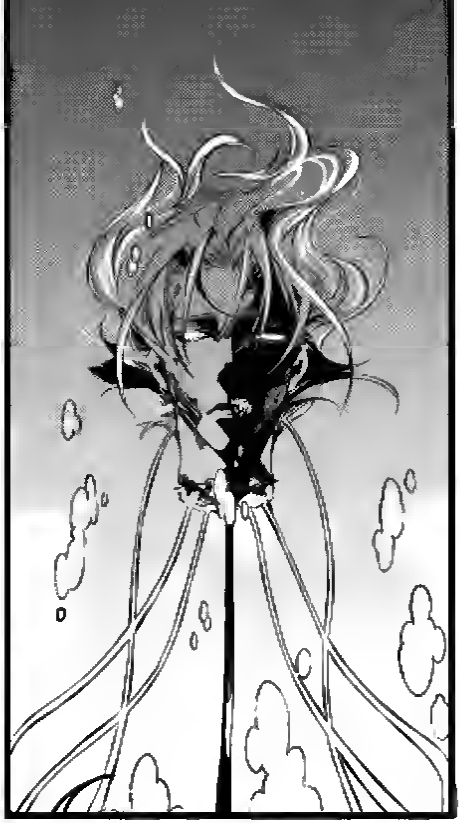
That thing is alive... but can hardly be considered the person it once was.
No way... he was talking about this?

...Someone's coming!
—Confirmed
Huh?
Who left the lights on?
Tsk Tsk
How wasteful...
Damn, I wasn't expecting anyone to return this early...
What do I do now?

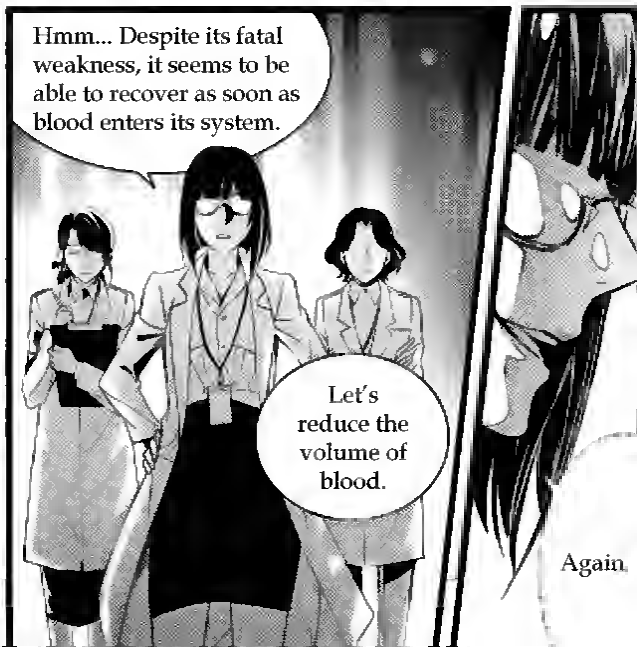
This is the head of the sole Gourmet caught by Hunters 150 years ago.
It's thanks to this that we were able to learn so much about mutants, like how things that normal vampires are so scared of, such as crosses, garlic, and sunlight, have no effect on them, and that they possess abilities that make them nearly invincible.
However, after many years of experimentation we've found that they aren't invulnerable, each possesses but *one* fatal weakness.
In the case of this specimen, it is weak to fire.
Was its head the only part they originally found?
No, the rest of its body was destroyed by the experiments We started from its inferior distal digits
Now only its head remains... It's still alive however.
We are going to test the limits of their vitality today.

*The author originally wrote dissected from toes , this made no sense and was jarring in so many ways, so we wrote something else

Start the vitality test.
Ignite.
FWOOSH
AAAAH
UPH
The smell of burning flesh...
Stop
Inject 50 ml of blood.



...It returned to normal?


Hmm... Despite its fatal weakness, it seems to be able to recover as soon as blood enters its system.
Let's reduce the volume of blood.
Again

Ignite.
Inject 40 ml of blood
Ignite.
30 ml.
Ignite.
Ignite!!
Ignite!!!
This is...inhumane.
...Beautiful.

Aah... I must know more about these mutants, more!
I need more samples! Mutant samples!
Their vitality, their abilities, and even their mortalities!
Everything!
...How could she laugh about it so gleefully?
CHILL...
Just because they're not humans?
THUD

OUCH
What is it? Barging in without permission during an experiment...
HISS
Sorry, I just need to confirm something.
I just checked the laboratory's entry records, and Jin Woo name was listed even though he is standing next to me right now.
But then, who used the card?
...
Come out.
Mano

SHAT
TER
Sorry, Seho...
But I have no intention of playing along as your hostage.
Oh? Then you leave me no choice.
GET HIM!!!
CRASH!!

CLICK
I will not allow further desecration of my laboratory
GASP...
When did she get behind me?
Everyone out!
Now!!

I'm back right
where I started.
KH!

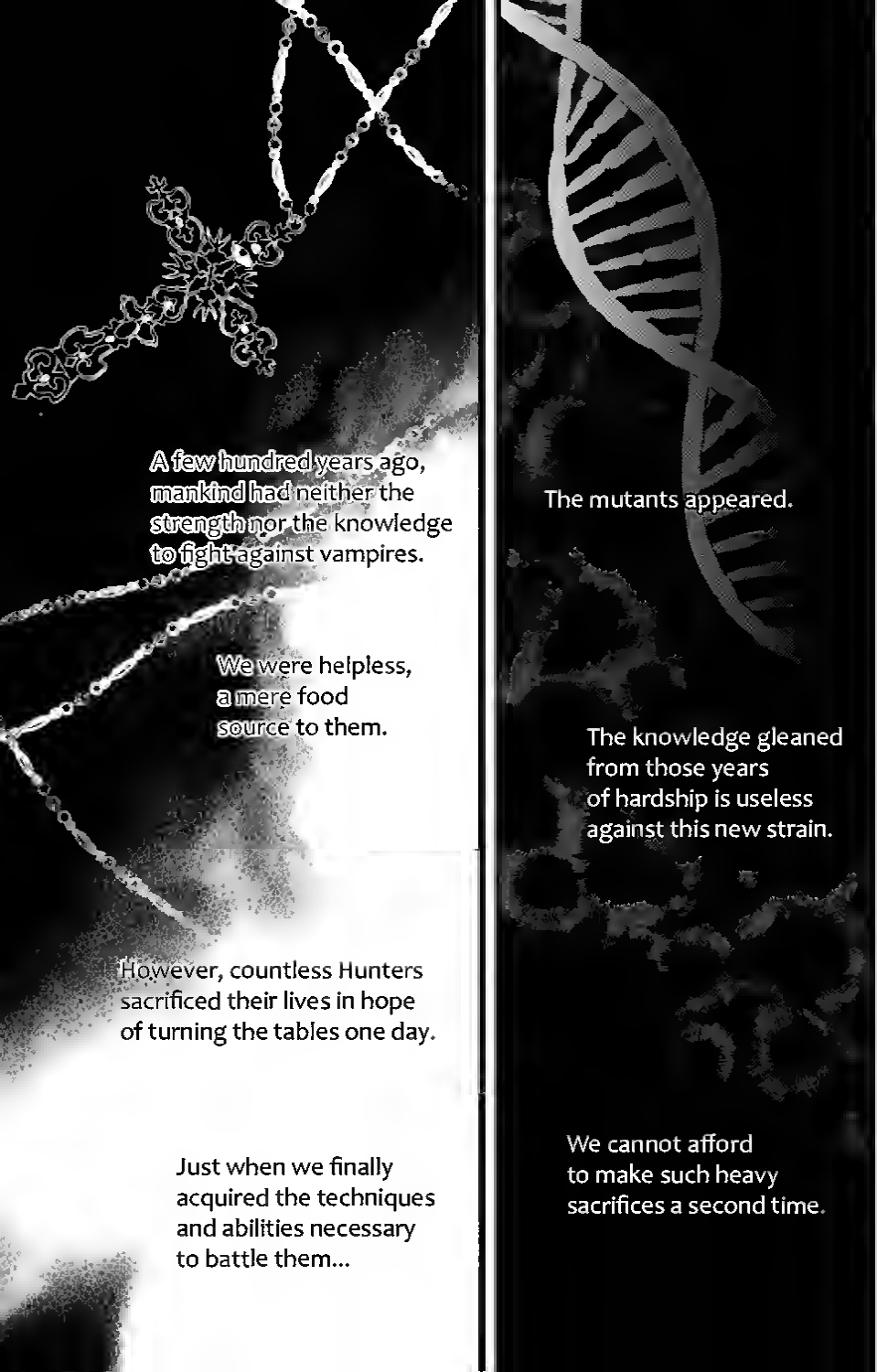
From now on you'll be locked in the room with a toilet, feel free to use it to your heart's content, with the cuffs on that is
GRR..
FUNCH!

Mano..

They were happily burning a person alive ..

Don't you feel anything at all?

They are not people.
They're monsters.

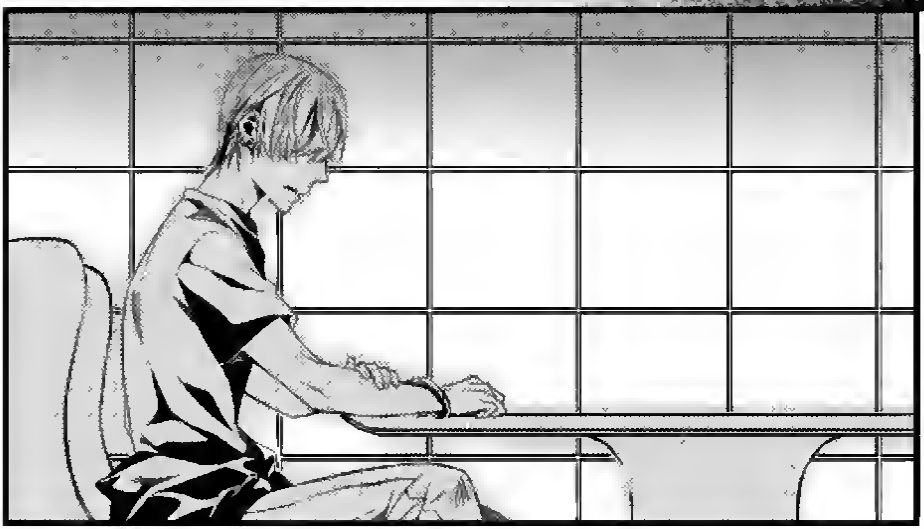

A few hundred years ago, mankind had neither the strength nor the knowledge to fight against vampires.
We were helpless, a mere food source to them.
However, countless Hunters sacrificed their lives in hope of turning the tables one day.
Just when we finally acquired the techniques and abilities necessary to battle them...
The mutants appeared.
The knowledge gleaned from those years of hardship is useless against this new strain.
We cannot afford to make such heavy sacrifices a second time.

They're parasites, Mano. Monsters that feed on human blood.
Don't be fooled by their appearance.
They're different from us.

You belong to this side,
with me, like always...

But Seho...

As it is, we are turning into monsters.



Mano
Answer me.
Come now brat, where are you?
...Fine, forget it.
Respond, at least
The familiar voice I hear everyday.
TENSE UP...
No, I'm never gonna answer.
...I cannot lead him here.
I don't want to see him like that.
...Haa, fine. I give up.
I won't go there, I promise.

...Really?
Yes.
I do not lie.
POUT
Un. Like. You.
He's clearly sulking.
Now that it's come to this, just say something.
Like what?
Just talk to me...
Anything is fine.
It's calming
to be able to talk to him.
And his voice is quite fine...
Hmm... then,
You should study some English.

What?
So random, why English?!
RISE!
When the English branch came you couldn't understand what they were saying, right? It was embarrassing.
D-that...!
I'm just bad with sentences, I do know a lot of words!
...
Test me with dictation if you don't believe me!
*The word 'book' in Korean, this dictation game will continue to the next page
What's the word for '책'*?
...Seriously? Even a kindergartener would know that.
I'm starting with the basics, you dummy. Now, pronounce it correctly.
...Book.
He just said a random English word aloud.
And a really basic one at that
...?

사과
Apple.
Coward.
겁쟁이
Ugh..
This is embarrasing.
자동차
Car.
종소리
...Bell.
...Wait--
*referring to the author.
GLANCE...
She wouldn't... *
Not with these childish word games...
...Nah.
The author should know what she's doing
SHAKE
I'm being Silly!
SHAKE
For the record
WOOSH...

You
summoned me.
--- Um, Author?
We need to talk.
What are you looking at?